

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-14, and 16-24 are pending in the application. Claims 17-24 have been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected subject matter. Independent claims 1, 2, 11, and 16 have been amended by the present amendment. The amendments are fully supported by the application as originally filed (see, e.g., specification at page 32, second paragraph to page 34, second paragraph).

Independent claims 1, 2, 11, and 16 each recite a recording medium including a data recording region and an encryption data recording region, in which information and encryption information are recorded, respectively, using an identical kind of recording system, where the recording system is a rewritable recording system and "the encryption information is configured to be rewritten in the encryption data recording region."

As described in the specification, the encryption information is configured to be rewritten in an encryption data recording region of a recording medium (see, e.g., specification at page 32, second paragraph to page 34, second paragraph). Therefore, because the disk identification information (i.e., the encryption information) is recorded using a rewritable recording system, if disk identification information is recorded improperly, it is possible to re-record the disk identification information in the encryption data recording region (see specification at page 34, second paragraph).

Claims 1-9, 11-14, and 16 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT Publication WO 00/07182 to Tosaki et al. ("Tosaki") in view of U.S. Patent 6,587,948 to Inazawa et al. ("Inazawa"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding the rejection of independent claims 1, 2, 11, and 16 over the proposed combination of Tosaki in view of Inazawa, the proposed combination does not teach or suggest a rewritable recording system used to record encryption information in an encryption data recording region, where "the encryption information is configured to be rewritten in the encryption data recording region."

On page 2, paragraph #5 of the Office Action of 04/27/2007, column 2, lines 65-67 of Tosaki was cited allegedly for teaching a rewritable recording system. However, Tosaki merely teaches that an optical disk used as a recording medium can be a rewritable disk such as DVD-RW or CD-RW.

One of ordinary skill in the art would know that DVD-RW and CD-RW are conventional rewritable disks that can be rewritten by users, i.e., the user data can be rewritten.

However, DVD-RW and CD-RW are not provided with encryption data recording regions capable of being rewritten. The "RW" or rewritable feature of these disks refers to the ability to rewrite user data, and such disks conventionally are not configured to rewrite encryption information or disk identification information in an "encryption data recording medium" *as claimed*.

Therefore, even if Inazawa was somehow combined with Tosaki, the proposed combination would not teach or suggest at least a rewritable recording system in which encryption information is configured to be rewritten in an encryption data recording region, as recited in independent claims 1, 2, 11, and 16.

It is believed that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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